

August 24, 2005

Commissioner J. David Donahue

Indiana Department of Correction

Indiana Government Center South

302 West Washington Street

Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear David:

We already feel great value from the partnership which is unfolding between the Indiana Department of Correction and The Villages of Indiana. And I'm certain that it was easy for you to see our partnership's impact on Olivia, Jaylon, Christine and Cody on Monday. Imagine their excitement multiplied by 1,100 more children that The Villages serves who are also benefiting from your gifts! To have the Department of Correction as a member of The Villages' team is invaluable; for together we can set an example of public-private partnerships that help vulnerable children and families in our great state realize their hopes, dreams and potential!

Thanks to your dynamic leadership, the vision of Java Ahmed, and the generosity of hundreds of your DOC staff members, each of the children receiving The Villages' Therapeutic Foster Care will have their lives enriched with a brand new backpack, filled to the brim with school supplies, as they head back to school! PROJECT BACKPACK is unleashing newfound confidence in the lives of these special children and a positive educational experience is vital in helping these young people heal from the hurts of their painful childhood experiences!

So ALL of us at The Villages salute you and each member of your outstanding Department of Correction staff for investing in Indiana's most vulnerable children, and brightening their future in a very concrete way! We've attached some pictures which capture the joy that each child touched by PROJECT BACKPACK will experience!

Gratefully,

Sharon E. Pierce, President & CEO

The Villages' Team